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I. Opening of the session (agenda item 1)

1. The first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was held at UNEP headquarters, Nairobi, from 23 to 27 June 2014.

2. The session was opened at 10.20 a.m. on Monday, 23 June 2014, by Mr. Hassan Abdelgadir Hilal, President of the Environment Assembly.

3. The President announced that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/213, at the current session the Environment Assembly would use its applicable rules of procedure and the applicable rules and practices of the General Assembly pending the adoption of new rules of procedure.

4. In line with rule 62 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations General Assembly, he invited the Environment Assembly to observe one minute of silence for reflection.

5. Opening statements were then delivered by Ms. Sahle-Work Zewde, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi; Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP; and Ms. Judy Wakhungu, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Water and Natural Resources of Kenya.[1]

II. Organization of work (agenda item 2)

A. Attendance

6. The following member States were represented at the session: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the

[1] A fuller account of the discussions of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first session, including summaries of the opening and general statements and of the Assembly's deliberations on the substantive issues before it, is contained in the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.1/10).

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

7. The Holy See and the State of Palestine were represented as observers.

8. The following United Nations bodies, secretariat units and convention secretariats were represented: Interim Secretariat of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, Ozone secretariat, secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

9. The following United Nations specialized agencies and related organizations were represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Atomic Energy Agency, International Labour Organization, International Maritime Organization, World Meteorological Organization.

10. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: European Union, Global Environment Facility, Global Green Growth Institute, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), League of Arab States, Task Force of the Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora, Organization of American States, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia, South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme.

11. In addition, a number of non-governmental and civil society organizations were represented as observers. A full list of participants is set out in document UNEP/EA.1/INF/25.

B. Election of officers

12. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 23 June, the Environment Assembly adopted a draft resolution prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (UNEP/EA/1/L.1, resolution 4, Implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development) providing that each of the five United Nations regions would be represented by two members in the 10 member Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

13. The Assembly then elected the following officers by acclamation:

President:

Ms. Oyun Sanjaasuren (Mongolia)

Vice-Presidents:
Ms. Judy Wakhungu (Kenya)
Mr. Mahmoud Samy (Egypt)
Mr. Sargon Lazar Slewa (Iraq)
Mr. Attila Korodi (Romania)
Ms. Khatuna Gogaladze (Georgia)
Ms. Idunn Eidheim (Norway)
Mr. Chris Vanden Bilcke (Belgium)
Mr. Mariano Castro (Peru)

Rapporteur:
Mr. James Fletcher (Saint Lucia)

C. Credentials of representatives (agenda item 3)

14. At the 6th plenary meeting, on the afternoon of Friday, 27 June, the President reported that 157 of the 193 States Members of the United Nations were represented at the current session. In accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau had examined the credentials of the representatives of those Member States and had found them to be in order. The Environment Assembly approved the report of the Bureau on credentials.

D. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

1. Adoption of the agenda

15. At its 1st plenary meeting, the Environment Assembly adopted the following agenda for the session, on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/EA.1/1 and Add.1):

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organization of work:
   (a) Election of officers;
   (b) Adoption of the agenda;
   (c) Organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
4. Amendments to the rules of procedure.
5. Policy issues:
   (a) State of the environment;
   (b) Emerging policy issues;
   (c) International environmental governance;
   (d) Coordination and cooperation within the United Nations system on environmental matters;

(e) Coordination and cooperation with major groups;

(f) Environment and development.

6. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits, in particular the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and major intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the United Nations Environment Assembly.

7. Budget and programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 and the Environment Fund and other budgetary matters.

8. High-level segment.

9. Provisional agenda, date and venue of future sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

10. Other matters.

11. Adoption of the report.

12. Closure of the session.

2. Organization of work

16. At its 1st plenary meeting, on Monday, 23 June 2014, the Environment Assembly agreed to meet in plenary to decide on organizational matters, to adopt resolutions and to hold a high level segment focusing on two themes that had global resonance: "Sustainable development goals and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, including sustainable consumption and production"; and "Illegal trade in wildlife". It also agreed to take up agenda items 3, 10, 11 and 12 at its afternoon plenary meeting on the final day of the session.

17. Also at its 1st plenary meeting, the Assembly agreed, pursuant to rule 60 of the rules of procedure of the Environment Assembly, to establish a committee of the whole and a working party, which would be open-ended and would meet concurrently. The Committee of the Whole would consider agenda items 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10, and would be chaired by Mr. Fernando Lugris (Uruguay). The working party would be chaired by Ms. Julia Pataki (Romania) and would discuss amendments to the rules of procedure of the Environment Assembly and the stakeholder engagement policy. In view of the heavy workload and time constraints for the session, the working party would begin its work as soon as the Committee had completed its general discussion of relevant subjects and would submit a report on its deliberations for consideration and adoption by the Environment Assembly at its closing plenary meeting on 27 June 2014. It was further decided that an open ended friends of the President group would be formed to assist the President in preparing the outcome of the session. In accordance with rule 18, the chairs of the Committee of the Whole, the working group and the friends of the President group would be invited to brief the Bureau of the Environment Assembly on a regular basis.

18. The Assembly further agreed at its 1st plenary meeting, under rule 37, to establish a maximum time limit of five minutes for all statements by representatives of member States and three minutes for those of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.

E. Policy statement by the Executive Director

19. At the 1st plenary meeting, the Executive Director delivered a policy statement, a summary of which may be found in the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.1/10).

F. High-level segment (agenda item 8)

20. The 2nd to 6th plenary meetings, on the morning, afternoon and evening of 26 June and the morning and afternoon of 27 June, took the form of a high-level segment under item 8 of the agenda. The high-level segment consisted of opening ceremonies and ministerial plenary meetings featuring interactive dialogue on the themes "Sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda, including sustainable consumption and production" and "Illegal trade in wildlife".

21. The high-level segment was opened at 10.20 a.m. on 26 June by Ms. Oyun Sanjaasuren, (Mongolia), President of the Environment Assembly. During the opening ceremonies, remarks were made by dignitaries, who later posed with other high-level representatives for a commemorative group photograph. Following a performance by esteemed Senegalese musician Mr. Baaba Maal, Mr. Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director. gave a presentation on the state of the environment and the science-policy interface. Ministers and other high-level representatives then made statements.

22. The ministerial plenary meeting on sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda, including sustainable consumption and production, comprised two sessions. The first, on eradicating poverty and achieving prosperity within the Earth's safe operating space through sustainable consumption and production, took place on the afternoon of 26 June and the morning of 27 June. The second, on ensuring a healthy environment, restoring natural assets and enhancing the durability of infrastructure for the needs of current and future generations, took place on the morning of 27 June.

23. The ministerial plenary meeting on illegal trade in wildlife was held on the evening of 26 June.

24. Further details on the high-level segment are provided in section VI of the proceedings of the session (UNEP/EA.1/10).

G. Work of the Committee of the Whole

25. The Committee of the Whole held six meetings, from 23 to 27 June 2014, to consider the agenda items assigned to it. At the 6th plenary meeting of the Environment Assembly, on the afternoon of 27 June, the Chair of the Committee reported on the outcome of the Committee's work. The report on the proceedings of the Committee is set out in annex III to the proceedings of the session.

H. Report by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

26. Mr. Sunu M. Soemarno (Indonesia), Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, reported on the Committee's preparations for the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly. Particular attention had been paid to the structure and organization of the session; to amendments to the Assembly's rules of procedure; to the enhancement of stakeholder engagement in the work of UNEP; and to the 12 draft resolutions contained in document UNEP/EA.1/L.1. With regard to the latter, the Committee recommended that the resolutions be clustered and considered in a strategic manner, and it had accordingly decided to present them, where possible, in an omnibus format. Furthermore, it had engaged in an informal process to discuss the scope, format and content of a potential outcome document. A "zero draft" of such a document had been circulated to all delegations, regional groups and economic and political integration organizations. A summary of the informal process on the zero draft had been transmitted to the Bureau.

III. Matters requiring the special attention of the General Assembly or the Economic and Social Council

A. Terminology

27. In accordance with the discussions held by the Committee of Permanent Representatives during the intersessional period between the open-ended meeting held from 24 to 28 March 2014 and the first session of the Environment Assembly, in which the Committee supported the alignment of the practices and procedures of the UNEP governing body with those of the General Assembly, the President of the Environment Assembly indicated that actions adopted by the Environment Assembly pertaining to substantive issues would be referred to as "resolutions", while those on procedural matters would be referred to as "decisions". The Environment Assembly at its first session adopted 17 resolutions and two decisions (see annex).

B. Outcome document of the high-level meeting on sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda, including sustainable consumption and production

28. At its 6th plenary meeting, on the afternoon of 27 June, the Environment Assembly adopted a ministerial outcome document.

29. In the outcome document, ministers and heads of delegation, among other things, called on the international community to achieve an ambitious, universal, implementable and realizable post 2015 development agenda that fully integrated the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner.

30. They also called on the international community to accelerate actions, with the support of UNEP, to implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns and to take action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.

31. They called on the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, within their respective mandates, to give appropriate consideration to the outcome document and to take its messages further with a view to the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in the work of the United Nations and its Member States.

C. Ministerial plenary meeting on illegal trade in wildlife

32. As agreed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives at its open-ended meeting held from 24 to 28 March 2014, the ministerial plenary meeting on illegal trade in wildlife that took place on the evening of 26 June had as its outcome a summary of discussions supported by a resolution. The summary is set out in annex II to the proceedings of the session.

33. At its 6th plenary meeting, the Environment Assembly adopted resolution 1/3, on illegal trade in wildlife, in paragraph 5 of which it called on the General Assembly to consider the issue of illegal wildlife trade at its sixty-ninth session.

34. In the same resolution, the Environment Assembly requested the Executive Director to work closely with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Secretary-General's Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group.

D. Provisional agenda, date and venue of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

35. By its decision 1/2, the Environment Assembly decided to hold its second session at its headquarters in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016. In the same decision, the Environment Assembly requested the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in consultation with the Bureau of the Environment Assembly, to contribute to the preparation of the provisional agenda for the session.

E. Rules of procedure of the Environment Assembly

36. By its resolution 1/2, the Environment Assembly adopted amendments to the rules of procedure of the Environment Assembly. Rule 2 was amended to ensure that, when setting the date in a given year for a session of the Environment Assembly, the dates of meetings of other relevant bodies, including the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, are taken into account.

37. Rule 18 was modified to specify the composition of the Bureau of the Environment Assembly, namely, a President, eight Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur. By its decision 1/1, the Environment Assembly decided that each of the five regions of the United Nations would be represented by two members in the 10-member Bureau.

38. A new paragraph was added to rule 68, reading as follows: "A regional economic integration organization may participate in the deliberations of the United Nations Environment Assembly with the same modalities as those applicable to its participation in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly."

F. Follow-up to paragraph 15 of General Assembly resolution 68/215, on the call for the continued and focused implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building

39. In its resolution 1/4, on the science-policy interface, the Environment Assembly recalled paragraph 88 (f) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and paragraph 20 of Governing Council decision 27/2, calling for the enhancement of the operationalization of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building.

40. In the resolution, the Environment Assembly requested the Executive Director to continue to provide information from existing and ongoing assessments and to further explore ways of communicating key scientific findings of the assessment work of UNEP in order to support informed decision-making at all levels. It also requested the Executive Director to promote a strong science policy interface by expanding partnerships and collaboration with relevant research and United Nations entities as well as with member States, business and experts, and to submit a gap analysis report on environmental data, information and assessments.

41. In the same resolution, the Environment Assembly requested the Executive Director to undertake, within the programme of work and budget, the preparation of the sixth Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6), supported by UNEP Live, to be endorsed by the Environment Assembly by 2018.

G. Programme of work and budget for the bienniums 2014-2015 and 2016-2017

42. By its resolution 1/14, the Environment Assembly approved the revised programme of work for 2014-2015 and appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of $245 million, as approved by the Governing Council in its decision 27/13, taking into account the implications of the allocation to UNEP by the General Assembly of $34.9 million from the regular budget of the United Nations.

43. By its resolution 1/15, the Environment Assembly approved the programme of work for 2016 2017 and appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of $271 million, of which a maximum of $122 million is allocated to defraying post costs for the biennium.

44. In the same resolution, the Environment Assembly urged all member States and others in a position to do so to increase voluntary funding to UNEP, and requested the Executive Director to continue efforts to broaden the donor base and mobilize resources from all sources, including stakeholders. In addition, the Assembly invited the Secretary-General, in his proposals for the allocation of United Nations regular budget funds to UNEP for 2016-2017, to take into account the need to continue to implement paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a)-(h), of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

45. In line with General Assembly resolution 67/213, the Environment Assembly also requested the Executive Director to provide the Committee of Permanent Representatives with options for securing the servicing of the governing bodies of UNEP.

IV. Adoption of resolutions, decisions and the outcome document of the session

46. At its 6th plenary meeting, on the afternoon of 27 June, the Environment Assembly adopted the following resolutions, which are set out in the annex to the present report.

Resolution	*Title*
1/1	Ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme
1/2	Amendments to the rules of procedure
1/3	Illegal trade in wildlife
1/4	Science-policy interface
1/5	Chemicals and waste
1/6	Marine plastic debris and microplastics
1/7	Strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality
1/8	Ecosystem-based adaptation
1/9	Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme (GEMS/Water)
1/10	Different visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve environmental sustainability in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication
1/11	Coordination across the United Nations system in the field of the environment, including the Environment Management Group
1/12	Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements
1/13	Implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
1/14	Revised programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015
1/15	Proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016-2017
1/16	Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions
1/17	Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility

47. The Environment Assembly also adopted decision 1/1, on the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and decision 1/2, on the provisional agenda, date and venue of its second session (agenda item 9).

48. During the adoption of the ministerial outcome document (resolution 1/1), which had been prepared by the friends of the President group, the representative of a developing country, speaking on behalf of several other developing countries, said that those countries understood the document to reaffirm all of the principles enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including principle 7, on common but differentiated responsibilities, which was explicitly reaffirmed in paragraph 15 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Two representatives said that the omission of an explicit reference to principle 7 was unacceptable, with one suggesting that the omission stoked the fear that developed countries were negating their responsibility for the generation of greenhouse gas emissions. Another representative lamented the absence of an explicit reference to common but differentiated responsibilities but said that he could nevertheless support the outcome document in a spirit of consensus.

49. At the request of the President, the representative of Mexico, who had facilitated the discussions in the friends of the President group, described those discussions. Acknowledging the importance of the comments made, he said that the group's objective over the course of more than 50 hours of discussions had been to produce a consensus outcome document that constituted a strong closing of the historical first session of the Environment Assembly. He stressed that the outcome document, in reaffirming the member States' "commitment to the full implementation of the Rio+20 outcome document and all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development", encompassed all of the Rio principles, including principle 7. He asked delegations to read the document as a whole and argued strongly that it in no way diminished the importance of any principle or any agreement adopted in the past, including principle 7. He suggested that this understanding be reflected in the present proceedings.

50. The President then proposed the adoption of the outcome document and declared it adopted by acclamation.

51. Subsequently, two representatives said that they opposed the adoption of the outcome document without an explicit reference to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, while another said that he was not in a position to support it fully. The Environment Assembly agreed that the views of the three representatives should be reflected in proceedings of the session.

V. Amendments to the rules of procedure (agenda item 4)

52. As noted in section II.C. of the proceedings of the session, at its 1st plenary meeting the Environment Assembly established a working party to discuss proposed amendments to its rules of procedure and the UNEP stakeholder engagement policy. At the 6th plenary meeting, on the afternoon of Friday, 27 June, the chair of the working party reported on its work. The working party, she said, had reached agreement on amendments to the rules of procedure but had not finalized the stakeholder engagement policy. Agreement had yet to be reached on accreditation criteria and the accreditation process. At her suggestion, the Environment Assembly agreed that further consultations on the draft policy should be held in the period leading up to the second session of the Environment Assembly and that further consideration of the stakeholder engagement policy would be included on the

agenda for that session. Resolution 1/2, amending the rules of procedure of the Environment Assembly, as agreed to by the working party, was subsequently adopted by the Environment Assembly.

VI. Agenda items 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10

53. Agenda items 5 (Policy issues), 6 (Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits, in particular the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and major intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the United Nations Environment Assembly), 7 (Budget and programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 and the Environment Fund and other budgetary matters), 9 (Provisional agenda, date and venue of future sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly) and 10 (Other matters) were considered by the Committee of the Whole. At the 6th plenary meeting of the Environment Assembly, on the afternoon of 27 June, the Chair of the Committee reported on the outcome of the Committee's work. The report on the proceedings of the Committee is set out in annex III to the proceedings of the session.

VII. Adoption of the report (agenda item 11)

54. At its 7th plenary meeting, on the evening of Friday, 27 June, the Environment Assembly adopted the proceedings of the session on the basis of the draft proceedings contained in documents UNEP/EA.1/L.2 and Add.1, on the understanding that they would be completed and finalized by the Rapporteur, working in conjunction with the secretariat.

VIII. Closure of the session (agenda item 12)

55. During the closure of its first session, the Environment Assembly was addressed by Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of Kenya, and Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations. Following their remarks and the customary exchange of courtesies, the President of the Environment Assembly suspended the closing plenary meeting for a ministerial dinner hosted by the Government of Kenya. The meeting reconvened at 9 p.m., at which time the Environment Assembly adopted the outcome document set out in the annex to resolution 1/1. The first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme was declared closed at 10.55 p.m. on Friday, 27 June 2014.

Annex

Resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first session

Resolutions

1/1. Ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

The United Nations Environment Assembly

Adopts the following ministerial outcome document:

Ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

The ministers of environment and heads of delegation gathered at the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi on 26 and 27 June 2014

Recall General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 establishing the United Nations Environment Programme, the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000, the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, declaring the United Nations Environment Programme to be the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, that promotes the integrated and coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and that serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment, as reinforced in the Nusa Dua Declaration of February 2010;

Also recall that, from the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992, the adoption of Agenda 21, the adoption of the Plan of Implementation of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, we have increased our understanding of the importance of the environment in the context of sustainable development, we have strengthened our institutions and we have committed ourselves to action;

Reaffirm, therefore, our commitment to the full implementation of the Rio+20 outcome document, "The future we want",[1] and all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and call for the implementation of section IV.C of "The future we want", on the environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development, and paragraph 88, on strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme;

Emphasize, with the foregoing in mind, the historic importance of convening the first universal session of this lead forum and decision-making body to address

[1] General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

global environmental challenges and provide overarching policy guidance within the United Nations system, recognizing the fundamental role of the Environment Assembly in promoting the full integration and coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development and its potential to identify opportunities and advance solutions for the global environmental agenda;

Call on the international community, and reaffirm our commitment:

(a) To ensure the full integration of the environmental dimension, especially throughout the sustainable development agenda, acknowledging that a healthy environment is an essential requirement and key enabler for sustainable development;

(b) To achieve an ambitious, universal, implementable and realizable post-2015 development agenda that fully integrates the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in a coherent, holistic, comprehensive and balanced manner, including comprehensive and action-oriented sustainable development goals, with the aim of eradicating poverty, protecting the environment and promoting inclusive social and economic development in harmony with nature;

(c) To accelerate and support efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, including through sustainable lifestyles and resource efficiency, and to accelerate actions, with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme, to implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns as a tool for action on sustainable consumption and production, including its section on means of implementation;

(d) To take action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, which has major economic, social and environmental impacts, contributes to damage to ecosystems and rural livelihoods, undermines good governance and the rule of law and threatens national security;

(e) To undertake urgent actions to address climate change, a persistent crisis that affects all countries, and undermines their ability , in particular developing countries, to achieve sustainable development, which requires cooperation by all countries, in accordance with the objective, principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(f) To continue to work towards the adoption in 2015 of an ambitious outcome in the form of a protocol, other legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Framework Convention on Climate Change applicable to all parties in accordance with the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action;

(g) To ensure the full implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and other international and regional environmental commitments in an effective and coordinated manner while promoting synergies among them, acknowledging their positive contribution to sustainable development;

(h) To reinforce efforts to halt biodiversity loss and combat desertification, drought and land degradation, including through the implementation of existing environmental agreements, and to ensure that ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide their services;

(i) To foster and encourage the development of genuine and durable partnerships to address environmental challenges faced by small island developing States, looking forward to the discussion that will take place at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in Samoa in September 2014;

Underline the importance of the issues addressed in the resolutions adopted by the Environment Assembly at its first session, and invite the international community to join efforts, including those made by the United Nations Environment Programme, to implement such outcomes;

Welcome the richness of the debate that took place in the margins of the first session of the Environment Assembly and the contributions of the academic community and civil society experts in various forums to our understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing us, including with regard to the rule of law on the environment, gender, youth, the role of legislators and financing a green economy, and recommend the continuation of this practice;

Commend the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in facilitating intergovernmental negotiations on multilateral environmental agreements, including the adoption of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and highlight the important positive contribution of the sound management of chemicals and waste to sustainable development;

Acknowledge that a strengthened science-policy interface is of key importance to more efficient and effective policymaking on sustainable development at all levels and emphasize the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in providing coherent evidence-based knowledge and information on the state of the global environment for decision makers, including in the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda;

Call on the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, within their respective mandates, to give appropriate consideration to the present outcome document and to take its messages further with a view to the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in the work of the United Nations and its Member States.

1/2. Amendments to the rules of procedure

The United Nations Environment Assembly

Adopts the following amendments to the rules of procedure:

1. Rule 2 as amended reads as follows:

1. Each regular session of the United Nations Environment Assembly shall be held, subject to the provisions of rule 3, at a date fixed by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its previous session in such a way, if practicable, as to enable the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly to consider the report of the United Nations Environment Assembly in the same year.

2. When setting the date in a given year for the session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the dates of meetings of other relevant bodies,

including the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, should be taken into account.

2. Rule 7 as amended reads as follows:

> The Executive Director shall communicate the date of the first meeting of each session to all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Chairpersons of subsidiary organs of the United Nations Environment Assembly, as appropriate, the President of the General Assembly when the Assembly is in session, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the appropriate United Nations bodies, the intergovernmental organizations referred to in rule 68 below and the non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders referred to in rule 69 below. Such notification shall be sent:
>
> (a) In the case of a regular session, at least forty-two days in advance;
>
> (b) In the case of a special session, at least fourteen days in advance of the date fixed in accordance with rule 6 above.

3. The title of section IV: for "OFFICERS", read "UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY BUREAU".

4. Rule 18, paragraph 1: for "three Vice-Presidents", read "eight Vice-Presidents".

Replace paragraph 2 of rule 18 with the following paragraph:

> In electing its officers, the United Nations Environment Assembly shall ensure that each of the five regions is represented by two members in the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

5. New rule, to be inserted after rule 18 and before rule 19, as follows:

Replacement of a Bureau member

> 1. During the session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, if a Bureau member, except the President, is unable to permanently carry out any of her or his functions, the Assembly may elect an alternate upon appointment by a member State or by the regional group to which that member belongs.
>
> 2. During the intersessional period, if a Bureau member resigns or is unable to exercise functions, the member State or the regional group to which that member belongs shall nominate a replacement for the remainder of the term. The Executive Director shall immediately upon receipt of the nomination inform all members of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the nomination in writing. If within one month no objections are received in writing, the nominee is elected. If a member State objects, the nominee is elected if a majority of member States responding support the nominee.

6. Rule 43 as amended reads as follows:

> Proposals and amendments shall normally be introduced in writing and submitted to the Executive Director, who shall circulate copies to the members in all the official languages of the United Nations Environment Assembly. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly unless copies of it have been

circulated to all members not later than the day preceding the meeting. Subject to the consent of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of proposals or amendments even though these proposals or amendments have not been circulated or have only been circulated on the same day.

7. Title of section VIII: replace the current title with the following:

SESSIONAL OR INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY

8. Rule 59 as amended reads as follows:

The United Nations Environment Assembly may establish such sessional or intersessional committees, working parties and subsidiary organs as may be necessary for the effective discharge of its functions.

9. Rule 64 as amended reads as follows:

1. All resolutions, declarations, recommendations and other formal decisions of the United Nations Environment Assembly, as well as its reports to the General Assembly and other documents, shall be made available in the languages of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

2. The text of the resolutions, declarations, recommendations and other formal decisions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly, its sessional committee and other subsidiary organs, if any, shall be distributed by the secretariat to all members of the United Nations Environment Assembly and any others participating in the session. The printed text of such resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions, as well as the reports of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the General Assembly, shall be distributed after the close of the session to all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and to the intergovernmental organizations referred to in rule 68 below.

10. Rule 66 as amended reads as follows:

The meetings of the United Nations Environment Assembly, its sessional committees and working parties and subsidiary organs, if any, shall be held in public unless the body concerned decides otherwise. If possible, such proceedings shall be broadcast to the wider public through electronic means.

11. Rule 68: insert new paragraph 3 as follows:

A regional economic integration organization may participate in the deliberations of the United Nations Environment Assembly with the same modalities as those applicable to its participation in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly.

Add a footnote against the term "regional economic integration organization" to read as follows: "That is the subject of General Assembly resolution 65/276."

1/3. Illegal trade in wildlife

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Deeply concerned about the increasing scale of illegal trade in wildlife and its products, including forest products, including timber, and marine species, and its adverse economic, social and environmental impacts,

Recognizing that illegal trade in wildlife and its adverse impacts contributes to damage to ecosystems and rural livelihoods, undermines good governance and the rule of law and threatens national security and has a negative impact on sustainable utilization, including ecotourism and wildlife-based tourism,

Recognizing also the role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora as the principal international instrument for ensuring that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival, and acknowledging the role of other conventions in the area, such as the Convention on Migratory Species,

Recalling paragraph 203 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[1] in which it was recognized that firm and strengthened action needs to be taken on both the supply and demand sides, taking into account the role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,

Recalling also Governing Council decision 27/9 on advancing justice, governance and law for environmental sustainability, in which the Council noted, inter alia, that offences against the environment, in particular illegal trade in wildlife, including timber, are increasingly committed by organized criminal groups and recalled that international cooperation at all levels in accordance with international law, while respecting national jurisdictions, contributes to combating those offences more effectively,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/40 on crime prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora, in which the Council encouraged Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora involving organized criminal groups a serious crime, as defined in article 2, paragraph (b), of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

Reaffirming also resolution 23/1 of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on strengthening a targeted crime prevention and criminal justice response to combat illicit trafficking in forest products, including timber, which encourages member States to make illicit trafficking in forest products, including timber, involving organized criminal groups a serious crime, as defined in article 2, paragraph (b), of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, where appropriate,

Reaffirming further General Assembly resolution 68/193, emphasizing that coordinated action is critical to eliminate corruption and disrupt the illicit networks that drive and enable trafficking in wildlife, timber and timber products, harvested in contravention of national laws,

Welcoming the outcome of the twenty-second session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which encouraged the integration and

coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice to deal effectively with the challenge posed by emerging crimes that have a significant impact on the environment,

Welcoming also the commitments made by the ministers of tourism of Africa, the Secretary General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and the representatives of relevant national and international organizations at the African Tourism Ministers Meeting on Anti-Poaching held in Berlin on 6 March 2014,

Welcoming further the conferences on illegal wildlife trade held in Gaborone, Paris and London, among others,

Stressing the need to maintain the political momentum generated through those and other high-level international and regional initiatives,

Welcoming the adoption of the African Elephant Action Plan as a framework for the conservation and management of the African elephant across the species range and the subsequent establishment the African Elephant Fund under the administration of the United Nations Environment Programme as a funding mechanism towards the implementation of the Action Plan,

Welcoming also the creation of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, which includes the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the International Criminal Police Organization, the World Customs Organization and the World Bank, as an important collaborative effort to strengthen enforcement,

Acknowledging the value of relevant United Nations Environment Programme activities for international efforts to combat illegal trade in wildlife more effectively, such as, but not limited to, the Green Customs Initiative, and the work of United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre, and as a partner in the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management and the Global Forest Watch initiative,

Acknowledging also the crucial role played by Governments and all relevant stakeholders, including indigenous and local communities, civil society and the private sector, in combating illegal trade in wildlife,

1. *Affirms* its strong determination to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, including timber and marine species, globally;

2. *Strongly encourages* member States and regional economic integration organizations to:

(a) Implement their commitments to fighting illegal trade in wildlife already taken in other forums;

(b) Provide leadership and mobilize resources, including for the African Elephant Fund and other wildlife-related funding mechanisms for strengthening the fight against the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, in particular by making sure that the evidence on the trends and extent of the illegal trade, and action being taken, is robust and up to date;

(c) Take targeted action to eradicate the supply and transit of and the demand for illegal wildlife products, including by raising awareness of illegal trade in wildlife and its impacts while respecting and protecting the legal and sustainable trade in wildlife products;

(d) Support work to reinforce the legal framework, including through deterrent measures, where necessary, and to strengthen capacity throughout the entire enforcement chain;

(e) Promote at all levels cross-agency cooperation to tackle the environmental, economic, social and security dimensions of the illegal trade in wildlife and their products;

(f) Initiate and promote action to further strengthen regional and international cooperation between source, transit and destination countries, including through additional support to wildlife law-enforcement networks;

(g) Promote and implement policies of zero tolerance towards all illegal activities, including corruption associated with the illegal trade in wildlife;

(h) Support the development of sustainable and alternative livelihoods for communities affected by the illegal trade in wildlife and its adverse impacts with the full engagement of the communities in and adjacent to wildlife habitats as active partners in conservation and sustainable use, enhancing communities' rights and capacity to manage and benefit from wildlife and wilderness;

(i) Enhance cooperation for the timely and cost-efficient repatriation of live illegally traded wildlife, including eggs, as called for by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;[2]

3. *Urges* parties to effectively implement their obligations under Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora as well as other relevant multilateral agreements, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, which includes the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Convention secretariat, the International Criminal Police Organization, the World Customs Organization and the World Bank, and other relevant international organizations can provide valuable assistance in that regard;

4. *Urges* all those engaged in efforts to combat illegal trade in wildlife to promote synergies, cooperation and coordination and avoid duplication;

5. *Calls upon* the General Assembly to consider the issue of illegal wildlife trade at its sixty-ninth session;

6. *Stresses*, in the light of the negative impact of wildlife trafficking on sustainable development, the importance of addressing the issue in the context of the post-2015 development framework;

7. *Underlines* the importance of keeping the issue of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products on the international agenda;

8. *Urges* all countries, within their capabilities, to assign and mobilize resources to combat illegal trade in wildlife in accordance with their national

[2] Article VIII, para. 4 (b), and resolution Conf. 10.7 (Rev. CoP15).

policies, priorities, plans and programmes, noting that such resources may include domestic funding through relevant policies, development strategies and national budgets, and bilateral and multilateral funding, as well as private sector involvement, and encourages donors and others in a position to do so, on an urgent basis, to mobilize and provide financial resources and assistance to support the efforts of developing countries to address illegal trade in wildlife, especially to create and strengthen national capacities;

9. *Calls upon* all countries to actively engage in and/or support on-the-ground-based activities on the part of International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime members to strengthen the capacity and effectiveness of local enforcers and improve national and international cooperation;

10. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme:

(a) To provide, by the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, an analysis of the environmental impacts of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products;

(b) To continue and to reinforce the relevant activities of the United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with member States and other relevant international, regional and national actors, to raise awareness about the problems and the risks associated with the supply and transit of and demand for illegal wildlife products;

(c) To work closely with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Secretary-General's Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, notably with regard to core areas of United Nations Environment Programme expertise, such as environmental aspects of the rule of law, judicial training and information exchange about judicial decisions and practices;

(d) To continue to support national Governments, upon their request, to develop and implement the environmental rule of law, and in that context to continue its efforts to fight the illegal wildlife trade and to continue to promote actions, including through capacity-building;

(e) To take a proactive role in United Nations Environment Programme administration of the African Elephant Fund to ensure its contribution to the implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan;

(f) To report on the implementation of the activities listed in paragraph 10 (a)-(e) to be discussed at the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly;

11. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

1/4. Science-policy interface

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012 on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled

"The future we want", and, in particular, paragraph 88 of the outcome document, and recalling also Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 8,

Mindful of the functions and responsibilities of the United Nations Environment Programme as outlined in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, including to keep under review the world environmental situation, and recalling Governing Council decision 27/11 of 22 February 2013 on the state of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to meeting substantive environmental challenges,

Acknowledging the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in particular paragraph 90, calling for strengthened assessment activities and improved access to data and information, and noting the need to integrate the economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development and to disseminate and share evidence-based environmental information on critical and emerging economic, environmental and social issues,

Recalling Governing Council decision 27/11, section III, paragraph 3,

Recognizing the potential benefits of a scientifically sound and evidence-based detailed assessment of the state of the environment for awareness-raising, informed policy formulation and decision-making in the context of sustainable development,

Welcoming the progress made during the design and development of UNEP Live as a tool to significantly enhance the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the future approach to keeping the world environment situation under review, including capacity-building and technology support for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve their data collection and assessment efforts and ensure that data collected and information generated are made available to policymakers and the public,

Recalling paragraph 88 (f) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and paragraph 20 of Governing Council decision 27/2, calling for the enhancement of the operationalization of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,

Recognizing that there are gaps in our knowledge of the state of the environment resulting from a lack of current data and information generation and dissemination,

Noting that there is an urgent need for Governments to take action to bridge those gaps through the building of capacities, the strengthening of existing mechanisms, including those of the multilateral environmental agreements, for monitoring the state of the environment and producing policy-relevant environmental assessments, which should be based on the use of established comparable methods for data collection and analysis, paying particular attention to the needs and circumstances of developing countries,

Welcoming the continued support provided by the United Nations Environment Programme to the work of the intergovernmental scientific panels, bodies and processes,

Expressing appreciation for the work of the International Resource Panel, which contributes to the strengthening of the science-policy interface and knowledge base in key areas of resource use and knowledge management,

Welcoming the release of the third Africa Environment Outlook (AEO-3) report, which reveals important linkages between health and the environment in Africa,

Welcoming also the release of the *Arab Region Atlas of Our Changing Environment*, which examines the environmental changes that have taken place across the Arab region,

Science-policy interface

1. *Welcomes* the briefing on the science-policy interface by the Executive Director to the high-level segment of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and requests the Executive Director to continue to provide information from existing and ongoing assessments as well as on progress made towards previously agreed global environmental goals to guide future policy debates at the Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to further explore ways of communicating key scientific findings of the assessment work of the United Nations Environment Programme in all United Nations languages to citizens, policymakers, the media and the research community in order to support informed decision-making at all levels;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Director to promote a strong science-policy interface by expanding partnerships with centres of excellence and research programmes, promoting integrated and peer-reviewed environmental assessments and policy analysis and working closely with member States, business and experts to establish up-to-date quality-assured data flows;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Director to foster collaboration with multilateral environmental agreement secretariats, relevant United Nations agencies and programmes and scientific panels for joint efforts to strengthen the science-policy interface and provide tools for integrated approaches and informed decision-making;

5. *Reiterates* the request to the Executive Director to submit a gap analysis report on environmental data, information and assessments as well as recommendations on policy instruments for a strengthened science-policy interface to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session;

Strengthening the environmental dimension of sustainable development

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to provide expert input on the environmental dimension in relation to sustainable development goals in accordance with the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Director to work closely with relevant United Nations bodies, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, on the production of the Global Sustainable Development Report;

Assessments

8. *Requests* the Executive Director, within the programme of work and budget, to undertake the preparation of the sixth Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6), supported by UNEP Live, with the scope, objectives and procedures of

GEO-6 to be defined by a transparent global intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder consultation informed by document UNEP/EA.1/INF/14, resulting in a scientifically credible, peer-reviewed GEO-6 and its accompanying summary for policymakers, to be endorsed by the United Nations Environment Assembly no later than 2018;

9. *Also requests* the Executive Director to consult with all United Nations Environment Programme regions regarding their priorities to be taken up in the global assessment;

10. *Further requests* the Executive Director, within the existing programme of work, to contribute to the dissemination and outreach of the findings of relevant scientific panels, bodies and processes under the auspices of intergovernmental organizations in order to amplify diffusion among policymakers and the public to the maximum possible extent;

11. *Reiterates* the request to the Executive Director to strengthen the policy relevance of Global Environment Outlook reports by measuring the progress towards the achievement of the previously agreed global environmental goals and targets and to inform relevant global processes and meetings where progress towards these agreed goals and targets will be discussed;

UNEP Live

12. *Encourages* Governments, major groups and stakeholders, United Nations specialized agencies and programmes, the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements and international and regional scientific bodies to engage in the future development of UNEP Live and share appropriate, credible and quality-assured data and information resources to support the environmental dimension of sustainable development assessment processes, which shall be accessible via the UNEP Live platform;

13. *Requests* the Executive Director to prepare, within the programme of work and budget and in consultation with Governments, United Nations agencies and programmes, the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements and international and regional scientific bodies, a long-term plan for the development and use of UNEP Live, with particular reference to its contribution to future Global Environment Outlook reports, future assessment modalities, stakeholder engagement, institutional networking and partnership activities, content development, technology support and capacity-building, in particular for developing countries, taking into account the existing scientific work and processes of the United Nations Environment Programme, and to present the plan to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session;

14. *Also requests* the Executive Director to undertake, at the request of member States, capacity-building and technology support activities for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve their data collection management and assessment, including strengthening indigenous and local knowledge systems and practices, as appropriate, for the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Invites* Governments and others in a position to do so to provide financial support for the implementation of the present resolution, in particular in the area of technology support, data infrastructure and capacity-building, so that developing

countries can engage effectively and take advantage of the benefits of platforms such as UNEP Live;

16. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

1/5. Chemicals and waste

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[3] internationally agreed goals, including environmental goals and objectives, the Millennium Development Goals and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled "The future we want", endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288, in particular the aim to achieve, by 2020, the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and of hazardous waste in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment,

Considering that the sound management of chemicals and waste contributes significantly to the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling section VIII, on the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes, of Governing Council decision 27/12, and recalling also that sustainable and adequate long-term funding is a key element for the sound management of chemicals and waste, as expressed in paragraph 223 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Welcoming the first joint meeting of the ordinary conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, held in Geneva in 2013,

Recalling Governing Council decision 27/12, and having considered the progress report of the Executive Director on its implementation,

I

Continued strengthening of the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term

1. *Recognizes* the continued relevance of the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Executive Director on the outcome of the country-led consultative process on enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and waste cluster[4] and the outcome document of the process, entitled "Strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term";[5]

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[3] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] UNEP/EA.1/5/Add.2.

[5] Ibid., annex.

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to forward, for information regarding policies and actions, the outcome document referred to in paragraph 2, to:

(a) The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) The sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

(c) The second session of the Open-ended Working Group of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the fourth meeting of the International Conference on Chemicals Management;

(d) The conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

(e) The Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of complying with existing international chemicals- and waste-related commitments through appropriate implementation at the national, regional and international levels;

II
Integrated approach to financing sound management of chemicals and waste

5. *Welcomes* an integrated approach to address the financing of the sound management of chemicals and wastes, and underscores that the three components of an integrated approach, mainstreaming, industry involvement and dedicated external finance, are mutually reinforcing and are all important for the financing of the sound management of chemicals and waste at all levels;

6. *Also welcomes* the revision of the Instrument made by the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility so as to include a focal area on chemicals and waste, and the increase in resources allocated to chemicals and waste by the sixth replenishment;

7. *Adopts* the terms of reference for a special programme, annexed to the present resolution, to be funded by voluntary contributions, to support institutional strengthening at the national level to enhance the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director, consistent with the terms of reference for the Special Programme, to establish and administer the Special Programme trust fund and to provide a secretariat to deliver administrative support to the Programme;

9. *Requests* the Executive Board of the Special Programme, in the light of the experience of the Programme and the lessons learned by recipient countries, to review the effectiveness of the operational arrangements for the Programme set out in its terms of reference and to provide a report on the review, to be considered by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its third session in 2018, with a view to its making adjustments, if necessary, to the operational arrangements for the Special Programme;

10. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit the terms of reference for the Special Programme to the conferences of the parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Open-ended Working Group of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management for their information;

11. *Encourages* Governments in a position to do so, as well as the private sector, including industry, foundations, other non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, to mobilize financial resources for the effective establishment and quick start implementation of the Special Programme;

III
Sustainable development

12. *Emphasizes* that the sound management of chemicals and waste is an essential and integral cross-cutting element of sustainable development and is of great relevance to the sustainable development agenda;

IV
Mercury

13. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Minamata Convention on Mercury at the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries in Kumamoto, Japan, on 10 October 2013;

14. *Requests* the Executive Director to facilitate cooperation, as appropriate, between the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention, the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and others, to make full use of relevant experience and expertise that may assist countries in joining the Convention, subject to the availability of resources for this purpose;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to express interest and signal their readiness to cooperate and coordinate with the Minamata Convention, and the reciprocal resolution of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

V
Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

16. *Welcomes* the important contribution of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management in facilitating action by all relevant stakeholders towards the sound management of chemicals and waste;

17. *Emphasizes* the need for continued and strengthened multisectoral and multi-stakeholder involvement;

18. *Also emphasizes* the need for the continued strengthening of the Strategic Approach;

19. *Invites* the Open-ended Working Group of the Strategic Approach at its second session and the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its fourth meeting to consider ways to improve the involvement and participation of all relevant stakeholders and thereby also enable efficient and effective responses to new and emerging issues and challenges;

20. *Recalls* the lead role of the United Nations Environment Programme in arranging for an effective and efficient secretariat for the Strategic Approach, and requests the Executive Director to continue to support the Strategic Approach, including in the development of orientation and guidance to implement the 2020 goal;

21. *Invites* the Director-General of the World Health Organization to assume a leading role in the Strategic Approach and to provide appropriate staff and other resources to its secretariat, and requests the Executive Director to forward this invitation to the next meeting of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization;

22. *Invites* members of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals to consider ways to support the Strategic Approach secretariat, including possible staffing support;

23. *Calls upon* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, industry, civil society and other Strategic Approach stakeholders to support the implementation and further development of the Strategic Approach;

24. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, industry and others in a position to do so to make financial and in-kind contributions to the Strategic Approach, its secretariat and its implementation, including through the programme of work of the members of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals;

VI
Lead and cadmium

25. *Recognizes* the significant risks to human health and the environment arising from releases of lead and cadmium into the environment;

26. *Welcomes* the upcoming third meeting of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint and the associated workshop focusing on the development of national legislation to phase out lead in paint, and requests the United Nations Environment Programme, in coordination with the World Health Organization, to continue to build capacity on lead paint through possible regional workshops;

27. *Looks forward* to the compilation of information on techniques for emission abatement and on the possibility of replacing lead and cadmium with less hazardous substances or techniques;

VII
Waste

28. *Requests* the Executive Director to consider the interlinkages between chemicals and waste policies in the global outlook on waste prevention, minimization and management, which is currently being developed;

VIII
Regional centres: mainstreaming and coordinated delivery

29. *Acknowledges* the role of the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions to support the implementation of those conventions and all relevant activities, as well as the role that they play in contributing to other chemicals- and

waste-related instruments and in mainstreaming the sound management of chemicals and waste;

30. *Invites* parties to those conventions and other stakeholders, including parties to the Minamata Convention and Strategic Approach stakeholders, to consider ways to promote an effective and efficient network of regional centres to strengthen the regional delivery of technical assistance under the conventions to promote the sound management of chemicals and waste, sustainable development and the protection of human health and the environment;

31. *Requests* the Executive Director and invites the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Global Environment Facility and other relevant international financial institutions, instruments and programmes, to consider opportunities for effective and efficient cooperation with the regional centres in implementing the regional sound management of chemicals and waste projects;

IX

32. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit a report on progress on the implementation of the present resolution to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session.

Annex

Terms of reference for the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

Recalling decision 27/12 on chemicals and waste management, part VIII, paragraphs 13 and 14 of the First Universal Session of the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP):

I. Objective of the Special Programme

1. The objective of the Special Programme is to support country-driven institutional strengthening at the national level, in the context of an integrated approach to address the financing of the sound management of chemicals and wastes, taking into account the national development strategies, plans and priorities of each country, to increase sustainable public institutional capacity for the sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle. Institutional strengthening under the Special Programme will facilitate and enable the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (hereinafter referred to as "the Instruments").

II. Definition of institutional strengthening

2. For the purposes of the Special Programme, institutional strengthening is defined as enhancing the sustainable institutional capacity of Governments to develop, adopt, monitor and enforce policy, legislation and regulation, as well as to gain access to financial and other resources for effective frameworks for the

implementation of the Instruments for the sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle.

III. Expected outcomes of institutional strengthening through the Special Programme

3. It is expected that strengthened national institutions would have the capacity to do the following:

(a) Develop and monitor the implementation of national policies, strategies, programmes and legislation for the sound management of chemicals and wastes;

(b) Promote the adoption, monitoring and enforcement of legislation and regulatory frameworks for the sound management of chemicals and wastes;

(c) Promote the mainstreaming of the sound management of chemicals and wastes into national development plans, national budgets, policies, legislation and implementation frameworks at all levels, including addressing gaps and avoiding duplication;

(d) Work in a multisectoral, effective, efficient, transparent, accountable and sustainable manner in the long term;

(e) Facilitate multisectoral and multi-stakeholder cooperation and coordination at the national level;

(f) Promote private sector responsibility, accountability and involvement;

(g) Promote the effective implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach;

(h) Promote cooperative and coordinated implementation of the Instruments at the national level.

IV. Scope of the Special Programme

4. The Special Programme should avoid duplication and proliferation of funding mechanisms and associated administration, and should fund activities that fall outside the mandate of the Global Environment Facility.

5. The activities funded under the Special Programme may encompass the following:

(a) Identifying national institutional capacity, weaknesses, gaps and needs, as well as strengthening the institutional capacity to do so, where required;

(b) Strengthening institutional capacity to plan, develop, undertake, monitor and coordinate the implementation of policies, strategies and national programmes for the sound management of chemicals and wastes;

(c) Strengthening institutional capacity to improve progress reporting and performance evaluation capabilities;

(d) Promoting an enabling environment to foster the ratification of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the Minamata Convention;

(e) Enabling the design and operation of institutional structures dedicated to the promotion of the sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle;

(f) Strengthening institutional capacity to promote measures to support all aspects of the sound management of chemicals and wastes, including more specific nationally identified thematic areas covered by the Instruments.

V. Eligibility for support from the Special Programme

6. Support from the Special Programme will be available for developing countries, taking into account the special needs of least developed countries and small island developing States, and for countries with economies in transition, with priority given to those with least capacity.

7. Applicants will be eligible if they are party to any one of the relevant conventions or have demonstrated that they are in the process of preparing for ratification of any one of the conventions.

8. Applications will include identification of the associated domestic measures to be taken to ensure that the national institutional capacity supported by the Special Programme is sustainable in the long term.

VI. Governance arrangements for the Special Programme

9. An Executive Board will be the decision-making body and oversee the Special Programme with the support of a secretariat.

10. The Executive Board will reflect a balance between donors and recipients. The term of the representatives will be in a two-year rotation. The Executive Board will be composed of the following:

(a) Four representatives of recipient countries, reflecting equitable, geographical representation, drawn from the following United Nations regions: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Central and Eastern Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, the Executive Board will have one representative from a least developed country or a small island developing State on a rotational basis;

(b) Five donor representatives, which are not also recipient countries.

11. The executive secretaries of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the Minamata Convention, the Coordinator of the Strategic Approach and a representative of the secretariat of the Global Environment Facility, as well as representatives of Governments and regional economic integration organizations, any implementing agencies and one representative from each of the Bureaus of the governing bodies of the Instruments may participate, at their own expense, as observers at the meetings of the Executive Board.

VII. Mandate and functions of the Executive Board

12. The Executive Board will have two co-chairs, one from recipient countries and one from donor countries.

13. The Executive Board will meet yearly and take its decisions by consensus wherever possible. If consensus cannot be reached, the Executive Board will, as a last resort, take its decisions by a two-thirds majority of its members present and

voting. The Executive Board will, as required, further develop its rules of procedure at its first meeting.

14. The Executive Board will take operational decisions regarding the functioning of the Special Programme, including the approval of applications for funding, and will endorse procedures for application, assessment, reporting and evaluation. The Executive Board will provide operational guidance on the implementation of the Special Programme and will provide advice on other matters as required.

VIII. Administering organization

15. As the administering organization, UNEP will provide a Special Programme trust fund and a secretariat to deliver administrative support to the Programme, including the allocation of human and other resources.

16. The secretariat will process application proposals for approval by the Executive Board, manage approved allocations and service the Executive Board. The Secretariat will report on its operations to the Executive Board and will be accountable to the Executive Director of UNEP for administrative and financial matters. The secretariat will submit an annual report to the Executive Board, which will also be sent to the governing bodies of UNEP and of the Instruments for their consideration.

IX. Operational arrangements for the Special Programme

17. The Special Programme will receive applications directly from national Governments. It will be easily accessible, simple and effective, and draw on experience from existing support mechanisms as appropriate.

18. Applications should be outlined within the context of an overall country approach to strengthening institutional capacity. The applications should contain proposed measures and performance targets, and information relating to long-term sustainability.

19. Applications should be submitted to the secretariat. The secretariat will appraise applications for consideration and decision by the Executive Board.

20. Cumulative allocations to a country should be decided by the Executive Board, based on the contributions received and the needs expressed in the applications submitted. Of that total, an amount not exceeding 13 per cent may be retained for administrative purposes.

21. Beneficiary countries will contribute resources equal to the value of at least 25 per cent of the total allocation. The Executive Board may reduce that percentage, commensurate with consideration of the specific national circumstances, capacity constraints, gaps and needs of the applicant.

22. Beneficiary countries shall submit annual reports on progress achieved. A final report and financial audit shall be submitted upon completion of each project, which shall include a full accounting of funds used and an evaluation of outcomes, as well as evidence as to whether the performance targets have been met.

X. Contributions

23. Contributions will be encouraged from all signatories and parties to the conventions and other Governments with the capacity to do so, as well as from the private sector, including industry, foundations, other non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders.

XI. Duration of the Special Programme

24. The Special Programme will be open to receive voluntary contributions and applications for support for seven years from the date it is established. On the basis of a satisfactory review and evaluation, and subject to a recommendation from the Executive Board to the United Nations Environment Assembly, the Special Programme may be eligible for a one-time extension, not to exceed an additional five years. Special Programme funds may be disbursed for a maximum of 10 years from the date the Programme is established, or eight years from the date it is extended, if applicable, at which point the Programme will complete its operations and close. The terms of reference of the above-mentioned review and evaluation are to be decided by the Executive Board.

1/6. Marine plastic debris and microplastics

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the concern reflected in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[1] that the health of oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, especially plastic, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds, from numerous marine and land-based sources, and the commitment to take action to significantly reduce the incidence and impacts of such pollution on marine ecosystems,

Noting the international action being taken to promote the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste in ways that lead to the prevention and minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment,

Recalling the Manila Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities adopted by the Third Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, which highlighted the relevance of the Honolulu Strategy and the Honolulu Commitment and recommended the establishment of a global partnership on marine litter,

Taking note of the decisions adopted by the eleventh Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on addressing the impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal biodiversity,

Recalling that the General Assembly declared 2014 the International Year of Small Island Developing States and that such States have identified waste management among their priorities for action,

Noting with concern the serious impact which marine litter, including plastics stemming from land and sea-based sources, can have on the marine environment, marine ecosystem services, marine natural resources, fisheries, tourism and the economy, as well as the potential risks to human health,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the precautionary approach according to which lack of full scientific certainty should not be used for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation, where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage;

2. *Recognizes* the significant risks arising from the inadequate management and disposal of plastic and the need to take action;

3. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, industry and other relevant actors to cooperate with the Global Partnership on Marine Litter in its implementation of the Honolulu Strategy and to facilitate information exchange through the online marine litter network;

4. *Recognizes* that plastics, including microplastics, in the marine environment are a rapidly increasing problem due to their large and still increasing use combined with the inadequate management and disposal of plastic waste, and because plastic debris in the marine environment is steadily fragmenting into secondary microplastics;

5. *Also recognizes* the need for more knowledge and research on the source and fate of microplastics and their impact on biodiversity, marine ecosystems and human health, noting recent knowledge that such particles can be ingested by biota and could be transferred to higher levels in the marine food chain, causing adverse effects;

6. *Notes* that microplastics may also contribute to the transfer in the marine ecosystems of persistent organic pollutants, other persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic substances and other contaminants which are in or adhere to the particles;

7. *Recognizes* that microplastics in the marine environment originate from a wide range of sources, including the breakdown of plastic debris in the oceans, industrial emissions and sewage and run-off from the use of products containing microplastics;

8. *Emphasizes* that further urgent action is needed to address the challenges posed by marine plastic debris and microplastics, by addressing such materials at source, by reducing pollution through improved waste management practices and by cleaning up existing debris and litter;

9. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter launched in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012 and the convening of the first Partnership Forum in 2013;

10. *Also welcomes* the adoption by the contracting parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) at its eighteenth ordinary meeting, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 6 December 2013, of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter Management, the world's first such action plan, and welcomes the draft Action Plan on Marine Litter for the North-East Atlantic region awaiting adoption by the Commission of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine

Environment of the North-East Atlantic at its meeting in Cascais, Portugal, and encourages Governments to collaborate through relevant regional seas conventions and river commissions with a view to adopting such action plans in their regions;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director to support countries, upon their request, in the development and implementation of national or regional action plans to reduce marine litter;

12. *Welcomes* the initiative by the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection to produce an assessment report on microplastics, which is scheduled to be launched in November 2014;

13. *Also welcomes* the work undertaken by the International Whaling Commission on assessing the impacts of marine debris on cetaceans and the endorsement by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals at its tenth meeting of resolution 10.4, addressing the impacts of marine debris on migratory species;

14. *Requests* the Executive Director, in consultation with other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to undertake a study on marine plastic debris and marine microplastics, building on existing work and taking into account the most up-to-date studies and data, focusing on:

(a) Identification of the key sources of marine plastic debris and microplastics;

(b) Identification of possible measures and best available techniques and environmental practices to prevent the accumulation and minimize the level of microplastics in the marine environment;

(c) Recommendations for the most urgent actions;

(d) Specification of areas especially in need of more research, including key impacts on the environment and on human health;

(e) Any other relevant priority areas identified in the assessment of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection;

15. *Invites* the secretariats of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and relevant organizations involved in pollution control and chemicals and waste management and the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species and the regional seas conventions and action plans to contribute to the study described in paragraph 14 of the present resolution;

16. *Encourages* Governments and the private sector to promote the more resource-efficient use and sound management of plastics and microplastics;

17. *Also encourages* Governments to take comprehensive action to address the marine plastic debris and microplastic issue through, where appropriate, legislation, enforcement of international agreements, provision of adequate reception facilities for ship-generated wastes, improvement of waste management practices and support for beach clean-up activities, as well as information, education and public awareness programmes;

18. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders to share relevant information with the Executive Director pertinent to the study described in paragraph 14;

19. *Invites* those in a position to do so to provide financial and other support to conduct the study identified in paragraph 14;

20. *Requests* the Executive Director to present the study on microplastics for the consideration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session.

1/7. Strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Noting the World Health Organization estimate, from the report adopted by its Executive Board in May 2014, that air pollution contributes to 7 million premature deaths each year globally, a burden of disease that may now exceed the burdens of malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS combined,

Recalling the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme as outlined in Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 2,

Recognizing that poor air quality is a growing challenge in the context of sustainable development, in particular related to health in cities and urban areas, and that efforts across sectors to improve air quality are needed,

Recognizing also that air pollution is an impediment to national sustainable development, impacting, among many other issues, the economy, worker productivity, health-care costs and tourism,

Aware that promoting air quality is a priority to protect public health and provide co-benefits for the climate, ecosystem services, biodiversity and food security,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, by which the Assembly endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", in which all States Members of the United Nations committed to promoting sustainable development policies that support healthy air quality in the context of sustainable cities and human settlements and recognized that reducing air pollution leads to positive effects on health,

Aware that the nineteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean adopted a decision for a Regional Plan of Action on Atmospheric Pollution,

Recalling with appreciation existing efforts to support actions at all levels to improve air quality, such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and its eight protocols, the World Health Organization guidelines on ambient air quality, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition and the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, and the important contributions that initiatives such as UNEP Live, global

environmental monitoring systems, the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia and the Malé Declaration on the Human Dimension of Global Climate Change, have made to sharing information and best practices,

1. *Encourages* Governments to take action across sectors to improve air quality to protect human health and the environment, reduce negative impacts, including on the economy, and promote sustainable development;

2. *Also encourages* Governments to formulate action plans and establish and implement nationally determined ambient air quality standards, taking into account the World Health Organization Air Quality Guidelines and other relevant information and to establish emissions standards for their significant sources of air pollution;

3. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental, regional and international organizations to make air quality data more easily accessible and understandable to the public;

4. *Encourages* Governments to share with the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme and member States the results and experiences of their efforts taken pursuant to paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the present resolution prior to the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, to be held in 2016;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director:

(a) To undertake strengthened capacity-building activities on air quality, such as workshops and policy development assistance, to support Governments in their efforts to implement paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the present resolution;

(b) To raise awareness of the public health and environmental risks of air pollution and the multiple benefits of improved air quality, including through public outreach campaigns as well as Global Environment Outlook assessment processes, in particular in the context of the discussions on sustainable development goals as part of the post-2015 development agenda;

(c) To explore opportunities for strengthened cooperation on air pollution within the United Nations system, for example the Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, the World Health Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, including establishing linkages between UNEP Live, the World Meteorological Organization Information System, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, other relevant information management systems and programmes, and pertinent regional efforts and initiatives;

(d) To facilitate the operation of existing United Nations Environment Programme-supported intergovernmental programmes on the assessment of air quality issues;

(e) To undertake global, regional and subregional, as appropriate, assessments by 2016, if possible, focused on identifying gaps in capacity to address air quality issues, including monitoring and control, opportunities for cooperation, and air pollution mitigation opportunities, building upon existing global, regional and subregional cooperative efforts on air pollution, such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary

Air Pollution and its eight protocols, and information provided by States members of the United Nations Environment Programme;

6. *Encourages* Governments that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the relevant global agreements addressing air pollution;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit and present a report on the information provided by Governments pursuant to paragraph 4 of the present resolution and to provide an update on progress made in implementing the present resolution to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session.

1/8. Ecosystem-based adaptation

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Taking note of the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which confirms that climate systems are warming and that global temperatures will continue to rise in the coming decades, if not centuries, even if emissions of greenhouse gases are stabilized, affecting natural systems on which humanity relies and highlighting the need to adapt to the impacts of climate change,

Taking note also of General Assembly resolution 67/210, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expressed deep concern that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing increased impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea-level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and emphasized that adaptation to climate change represents an immediate and urgent global priority,

Recalling paragraph 190 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[1] in which Heads of State and Government expressed concern that all countries are already experiencing the adverse impacts of climate change, which is threatening efforts to achieve sustainable development, eradicate poverty and achieve food security, and emphasized that adaptation to climate change is an immediate and urgent priority,

Mindful of decision X/33 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in which parties and other Governments were invited, in accordance with national capacities and circumstances, to integrate ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation into relevant strategies, including adaptation strategies and plans, national action plans to combat desertification, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, poverty reduction strategies, disaster risk reduction strategies and sustainable land management strategies on biodiversity and climate change and the role of ecosystem-based adaptation highlighted therein, and decision XI/15, in which parties were called on to mainstream ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change, ecosystem restoration and invasive species management for human health and well-being into all island development and conservation plans and projects and build capacity in their application, inviting organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme, to support ecosystem-based adaptation,

Mindful also of the work of the Nairobi Work Programme of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the process to support the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans,

Acknowledging the dependence of all countries, particularly developing countries, on ecosystems for livelihoods, food production and well-being, including adaptation to the impacts of climate change,

Taking note of the United Nations Environment Programme technical report *Africa's Adaptation Gap*, which indicates that climate change will affect, among other sectors, biodiversity, water supply, human health and food production, and that it is likely to increase the number of people at risk of hunger as well as the proportion of malnourished people in a region where 22 per cent of the population already suffers from hunger,

Bearing in mind that adaptation and mitigation actions generate multiple co-benefits,

Noting with concern that the resilience of many ecosystems is already being exceeded by an unprecedented combination of climate change, associated disturbances and other drivers,

Recognizing the adverse impacts of climate change, among other drivers, on ecosystems and on their ability to meet the needs for local food production and national food security and, inter alia, water resources,

Conscious of the heightened vulnerability of developing countries, particularly the least-developed countries and the small island developing States, to the impacts of climate change,

Recognizing that ecosystem-based approaches should contribute to climate resilient sustainable development in synergy with other adaptation-relevant approaches in all sectors,

Recognizing also the sovereignty and stewardship of all countries over their ecosystems and natural resources, which are threatened by climate change and other drivers,

Recalling Governing Council decision 22/3, in which the Council decided that the United Nations Environment Programme should strengthen its role, within available resources and in the light of its programme of work, to support regional and national actions and programmes to reduce the vulnerability of developing countries to climate change,

Recognizing the ongoing work of the United Nations Environment Programme on ecosystem-based adaptation activities to reduce vulnerability to climate change and subsequent vulnerabilities in areas such as food security, water, health or biodiversity,

Recognizing also the role of civil society, scientific institutions and other relevant stakeholders in providing, inter alia, evidence, tools, case studies, monitoring and best practices in ecosystem-based adaptation,

Recognizing further the need to take into consideration the needs of and engage vulnerable groups and communities in the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation measures,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in partnership with Governments, scientific institutions, United Nations agencies, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, within available resources and in the light of its programme of work, to continue providing and enhance support to developing countries, at their request, for the development and implementation of community-based, national and regional ecosystem-based adaptation programmes and activities through, inter alia, practical tools and pilot projects to demonstrate the use of those tools and other policymaking technical support;

2. *Encourages* all countries to include and improve ecosystem-based adaptation and community-based adaptation in their national policies, including those on climate change adaptation, food security and sustainable management of forests, according to their national circumstances and priorities;

3. *Invites* all countries, in the formulation and implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation and community-based adaptation measures, to consider in an integrated manner indigenous, local and traditional knowledge systems and practices, including, where appropriate, indigenous and local communities' holistic view of community and environment, as a major resource for adapting to climate change;

4. *Also invites* all countries to take into consideration ecosystems in their development planning for all relevant sectors, including in their climate change adaptation policies and plans;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue its collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant institutions and organizations to integrate ecosystems as a key element in national adaptation planning processes, according to the guidelines of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, taking into account guidance developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity;

6. *Calls upon* countries in position to do so to continue to support the development and implementation of programmes, projects and development policies for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change that take into account ecosystems, especially of developing countries at their request;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

1/9. Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme (GEMS/Water)

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling paragraphs 120 and 124 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", in which Heads of State and Government called for the adoption of measures to significantly reduce water pollution and increase water quality and made a commitment to the progressive realization of access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation,

Recognizing that good water quality and adequate water quantity are keys to sustainable development and human well-being, as well as an indispensable prerequisite for protecting biodiversity and the integrity of the planet's ecosystems,

Recalling Governing Council decisions 23/2, 24/16, 26/14 and 27/11, section VI, in which the Council set the stage for the Global Environment Monitoring System/ Water Programme (GEMS/Water), defined its mandate and invited member States to participate in the efforts to provide global water data and information,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Canada for having hosted and supported GEMS/Water in the past, acknowledges the achievements made, and welcomes the commitments by the Governments of Germany, Ireland and Brazil to support GEMS/Water in the future;

2. *Considers* the United Nations Environment Programme and GEMS/Water well suited to supporting the achievement of water quality and water-pollution-related targets which may be part of the post-2015 development agenda that is still to be decided upon, through the provision of data and information for relevant assessments;

3. *Emphasizes* that the World Water Quality Assessment Report, the water-related sustainable development goals and other assessments on the state of freshwater resources at different geographic scales will require timely, relevant and reliable data and information from the revitalized GEMS/Water programme in order to inform policymaking at the relevant levels;

4. *Underlines* the need to further improve the global coverage and consistency of water quality data as well as to expand the GEMS/Water network, and invites member States, relevant United Nations agencies, the international scientific community and other interested partners and stakeholders to cooperate with the GEMS/Water Global Coordination Unit, the GEMS/Water Capacity Development Centre and GEMS/Water database (GEMStat) in building a reliable global freshwater monitoring and information system and to support relevant initiatives, including through financial and in-kind contributions to the GEMS/Water network, according to the country's national circumstances and priorities;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to collaborate closely with member States with the aim of identifying additional key elements of GEMS/Water, such as regional hubs, capacity development programmes, technology support and new services, as appropriate, and to ensure the necessary resources as reflected in the programme of work and budget for enabling the GEMS/Water Global Programme Coordination Unit in the United Nations Environment Programme to effectively and efficiently operate as the interface between national focal points, GEMStat, the GEMS/Water Capacity Development Centre, GEMS/Water regional hubs and relevant global partners;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Director to initiate discussions with member States, United Nations agencies and other relevant institutions and organizations that have done significant work developing water quality exchange standards on a common data policy, taking into account relevant national legislation that allows the exchange of water-quality-related data and metadata for the purpose of building a consistent database in GEMStat, supporting UNEP Live and informing sustainable development policies;

7. *Further requests* the Executive Director to draft a revised GEMS/Water programme for adoption by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, including a budget, while linking it clearly to the next biennial programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme;

8. *Invites* GEMS/Water partners to support capacity development in providing standardization efforts for water-quality-related data collection, analysis, exchange and management, such as the Open Geospatial Consortium Best Practice WaterML-WQ (OGC 14-003) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency/United States Geological Survey Water Quality Exchange (USEPA/USGS WQX) standards for the presentation and exchange of water quality data and metadata, especially in developing countries, at their request, and to coordinate those efforts with relevant ongoing initiatives;

9. *Encourages* member States to approach GEMS/Water with the aim of supporting and customizing capacity development efforts, improving freshwater monitoring systems and exchanging technology that can support national, regional and global monitoring networks and assessments and to seek assistance for joining the GEMS/Water Network;

10. *Reaffirms* the mandate of GEMS/Water.

1/10. Different visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve environmental sustainability in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Welcoming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[1] in particular paragraph 56, recognizing that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country, in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development,

Taking note of paragraph 39 of the outcome document, in which Heads of State and Government recognized that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our home and that "Mother Earth" is a common expression in a number of countries and regions, and noting also that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development,

Taking note also of paragraph 2 of Governing Council decision 27/8, in which the Council acknowledged that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools developed by States Members of the United Nations in order to achieve sustainable development, and in this regard took note of the approach of Living Well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth as a holistic and integrated approach to sustainable development that can guide humanity to live in harmony with nature and lead to efforts to restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystems,

Welcoming the conceptual framework of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,

Taking note of the declaration of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of 77 and China, "For a New World Order for Living

Well", adopted on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia, on 15 June 2014,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide a report on the basis of the information resulting from paragraph 3 of Governing Council decision 27/8, and to submit the report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session;

2. *Also requests* the Executive Director to consider organizing a workshop at the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly about different approaches, visions, models and tools for achieving sustainable development, noting the approach of Living Well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth and that, in this context, the workshop will provide recommendations to the Executive Director for appropriate further steps and work;

3. *Further requests* the Executive Director to provide guidance and to facilitate, through UNEP Live, the visibility of different visions, approaches, models and tools for achieving sustainable development in accordance with paragraph 2 of Governing Council decision 27/8;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to take into consideration the different visions, approaches, models and tools referred to in paragraph 3 of the present resolution during the consultation processes for the Global Environment Outlook and UNEP Live;

5. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to the issue of harmony with nature in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

6. *Invites* countries that wish to do so to implement the Living Well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth approach in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, according to their national circumstances and priorities.

1/11. Coordination across the United Nations system in the field of the environment, including the Environment Management Group

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in particular its paragraph 88,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 67/213 of 21 December 2012, 67/251 of 13 March 2013 and 68/215 of 20 December 2013,

Recalling Governing Council decisions 26/11 of 24 February 2011, SS.XII/2 of 22 February 2012 and 27/2 and 27/5 of 22 February 2013,

Determined to strengthen its functions to provide general policy guidance for the direction and coordination of environmental programmes within the United Nations system in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII),

Expressing appreciation for the progress report prepared under the senior officials of the Environment Management Group at their nineteenth meeting and presented by the Executive Director,

Recalling the objectives of the Environment Management Group to assist the United Nations Environment Programme in carrying out its functions related to the promotion of coordinated approaches to environmental issues in the United Nations system and to enhance environmental perspectives, in particular analytical aspects in the work of other United Nations system organizations,

Recalling also Governing Council decision 24/1, recognizing the Environment Management Group as an instrument at the interagency level that assists the United Nations Environment Assembly in enhancing policy coordination across the environmental activities of the United Nations system,

I

Process to prepare a proposal for a United Nations system-wide strategy on the environment

1. *Reiterates* paragraph 3 of Governing Council decision 27/5, and requests the Executive Director, mainly through the Environment Management Group and in line with paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", to develop system-wide strategies on the environment and to invite the engagement of the Secretary-General and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to facilitate broad ownership in the United Nations at all levels;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to prepare, in consultation with regions, as appropriate, and to submit to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, a report which includes proposals developed in conjunction with the Environment Management Group describing the integration of the outcome of the post-2015 development agenda into the environmental work of the United Nations;

II

Environment Management Group

3. *Notes with appreciation* the continued efforts of the Environment Management Group to enhance interagency cooperation in mainstreaming environmental considerations into activities of the United Nations system at the policy, programme and management levels, in close cooperation with the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director as Chair of the Environment Management Group, in consultation with the Secretary-General and the Chief Executives Board, to identify possible measures to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of the Group and to submit a report with recommendations to the United Nations Environment Assembly for consideration at its second session;

5. *Welcomes* the online mapping knowledge-management tool on biodiversity prepared by the Environment Management Group in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, as well as Group's approach to contributing to the midterm review process of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and considering ways to integrate the Aichi Biodiversity Targets into country-level planning tools, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks;

6. *Notes* the contribution of the Environment Management Group to the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention

to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, by providing a United Nations Action Plan (2012-2018) for Coordinated Action in the Drylands;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Environment Management Group Issue Management Group on Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste;

8. *Encourages* the Environment Management Group to continue to support efforts to promote sustainability in the work of the United Nations system, including in the areas of environmental sustainability management and environmental peer reviews;

9. *Requests* the Executive Director, in his capacity as Chair of the Environment Management Group, to provide a summary report at the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly on the Group's work, highlighting issues that may require the particular attention of the Assembly;

10. *Also requests* the Executive Director, in his capacity as Chair of the Environment Management Group, to transmit the summary report to the governing bodies of the members of the Group.

1/12. Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 29 of Governing Council decision 27/13 of 22 February 2013, in which the Executive Director was requested to provide, by 30 June 2013, a full report on the relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and those multilateral environmental agreements for which the Programme provides the secretariat and to provide the final report to the governing body of the Programme at its next session,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director of 30 May 2014 on the relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements,[6]

1. *Welcomes* the step taken by the Executive Director to establish a task team, which has commenced consultations on the effectiveness of administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and a number of multilateral environmental agreements;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue his efforts in these matters and to ensure that a final report is submitted to the next session of the open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, with a view to putting the issue before the United Nations Environment Assembly;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Director to submit information on the progress made by the task team and its two working groups to the relevant conferences and meetings of parties to be held in the period before the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

[6] UNEP/EA.1/INF/8.

1/13. Implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Considering the document "The future we want", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in particular paragraph 99, in which Heads of State and Government encouraged action at regional, national, subnational and local levels to promote access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters, as appropriate,

Recognizing that democracy, good governance and the rule of law in national and international programmes are essential to sustainable development,

Underlining that broad participation by the public and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings contribute to the promotion of sustainable development,

Recalling that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme in February 2010 adopted the voluntary Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Bali Guidelines),

Recalling also decision 27/2 of the Governing Council as it relates to the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those from developing countries, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions, and the need to explore new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society in its work and that of its subsidiary bodies,

Noting the achievements at the national and regional levels in strengthening rights of access to environmental information and justice and participation in decision-making, as well as outstanding challenges to their implementation and the particular circumstances of each country,

1. *Takes note* of the Declaration on the Application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted by various countries of the region in the margins of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which gave rise to a process aimed at strengthening dialogue and cooperation among the countries of the region to explore the feasibility of adopting a regional instrument on rights of access to information, participation and environmental justice;

2. *Notes* the progress made in that process, coordinated by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in its capacity as technical secretariat;

3. *Takes note* of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, acknowledging the importance given to broad public participation and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", and in regional and national regimes and processes;

4. *Encourages* countries to continue their efforts to strengthen international dialogue and cooperation, technical assistance and capacity-building in support of

the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, taking into account relevant advances, instruments, experiences and practices since its adoption and to work for the strengthening of environmental rule of law at the international, regional and national levels;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to further enhance access to information in future related policies.

1/14. Revised programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the approved medium-term strategy for 2014-2017 and the approved programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015,

Reaffirming Governing Council decision 27/13 on the proposed medium-term strategy for the period 2014-2017 and the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015,[7] by which the Council approved appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of 245 million United States dollars as indicated in the following table:

Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015

(Thousands of United States dollars)

A. Executive direction and management	**7 794**
B. Programme of work	**209 394**
1. Climate change	39 510
2. Disasters and conflicts	17 886
3. Ecosystem management	36 831
4. Environmental governance	21 895
5. Chemicals and waste	31 175
6. Resource efficiency	45 329
7. Environment under review	16 768
C. Fund programme reserve	**12 500**
D. Programme support	**15 312**
Total	**245 000**

Noting the approval by the General Assembly of 34.9 million United States dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations to the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. *Approves* the revised programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015,[8] which takes into account the implications of the level of resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to the United Nations Environment Programme;

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/68/25), annex.

[8] UNEA/EA.1/7/Add.1.

2. *Notes* that the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Director, will carry out, and make publicly available, a review of the functions of United Nations Environment Programme staffing to redefine and recategorize its posts into three categories, management and administration, programme support and operational programme posts, in order to determine by April 2015 which posts should be financed from the regular budget of the United Nations and at the same time to consider the scope for efficiency savings in the numbers of staff posts.

1/15. Proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016-2017

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the approved medium-term strategy for 2014-2017[9] and the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016-2017,[10]

Noting General Assembly resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012 and 67/213 of 21 December 2012, by which the General Assembly strengthened the United Nations Environment Programme,

Noting also the consideration given at the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to, inter alia, chemicals and waste, ecosystem-based approaches, air quality, illegal trade in wildlife, marine litter, the science-policy interface, GEMS/Water and desertification,

1. *Approves* the programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017, taking into account relevant decisions of the United Nations Environment Assembly;

2. *Also approves* appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of 271 million United States dollars, of which a maximum of 122 million dollars is allocated to defraying post costs for the biennium for the purposes indicated in the following table:

Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016-2017

(Thousands of United States dollars)

A. Executive direction and management	**9 500**
B. Programme of work	**231 500**
1. Climate change	42 000
2. Disasters and conflicts	20 500
3. Ecosystem management	40 000
4. Environmental governance	25 000
5. Chemicals and waste	36 000
6. Resource efficiency	49 000
7. Environment under review	19 000
C. Fund programme reserve	**14 000**
D. Programme support	**16 000**
Total	**271 000**

[9] UNEP/GC.27/9.

[10] UNEA/EA.1/7.

3. *Stresses* the importance of early, extensive and transparent consultations between the Executive Director, member States and the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the preparation of the draft programme of work and budget and the need for the timely scheduling of meetings and provision of information to allow the full participation of all member States throughout this process, and in this regard welcomes the progress made to date;

4. *Recalls* paragraph 13 of Governing Council decision 19/32, and requests the Executive Director to ensure that the secretariat provides the documentation and information related to the medium-term strategy and programme of work and budget to member States and the Committee of Permanent Representatives at least four weeks in advance of the meeting at which it is to be considered;

5. *Emphasizes* the need for comprehensive information, and full justification, regarding proposed expenditures and contributions from all sources of funding, including staffing information, to be provided to the Committee of Permanent Representatives well in advance of its consideration of the programme of work and budget, and requests the Executive Director to hold timely consultations on the preparation of all future programmes of work and budgets prior to their transmittal to other appropriate bodies;

6. *Stresses* the need for the programme of work and budget to be based on results-based management, and welcomes the progress in the implementation of the medium-term strategy for 2010-2013 as described in the performance report for the biennium 2012-2013;

7. *Notes* the progress made in increasing allocations from the Environment Fund to activities and operations in the programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017;

8. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to reallocate resources between subprogramme budget lines up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the subprogramme appropriation and to inform the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and in duly justified exceptional circumstances to reallocate in excess of 10 per cent and up to 20 per cent of the appropriations from which resources are reallocated after prior consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

9. *Also authorizes* the Executive Director to adjust, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the level of Environment Fund allocations to subprogrammes, bringing them into line with possible variations in income compared with the approved level of appropriations;

10. *Further authorizes* the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments not exceeding 20 million United States dollars for Environment Fund activities for the biennium 2018-2019;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to apply a prudent approach to the management of resources from all sources, including the Environment Fund, including through the careful management of contractual arrangements;

12. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue his current emphasis on the achievement of results for the achievement of programme objectives and the efficient and transparent use of resources to that end, subject to United Nations processes of review, evaluation and oversight;

13. *Further requests* the Executive Director to continue to report to member States, through the Committee of Permanent Representatives on a yearly basis, and to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its biennial sessions, on the progress made in respect of the performance of each subprogramme and its expected accomplishments and on the execution of the budget of the Environment Fund, including voluntary contributions, expenditures and reallocations of appropriations or adjustments of allocations;

14. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to report to member States, through the Committee of the Permanent Representatives, in a streamlined manner through the merging of progress reporting on administrative and budgetary matters with its programme performance reporting;

15. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue to organize regular briefings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the programme and budget performance of each subprogramme, to enable the Committee to perform its monitoring task adequately;

16. *Further requests* the Executive Director to ensure that the delivery of the programme of work supports and brings together regional and national programmes and activities in the medium-term strategy for the period 2018-2021 and the biennial programme of work and budget for 2016-2017 and takes into account regional priorities and regional frameworks, where they exist, and requests the Executive Director to include information on regional programmes and activities by region in the progress report on the implementation of the programme of work;

17. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that trust funds and earmarked contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme are used to fund activities that are in line with the programme of work, apart from those funds administered by the United Nations Environment Programme on behalf of other intergovernmental bodies;

18. *Urges* all member States and others in a position to do so to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund, and requests the Executive Director, in the light of the universal membership of the United Nations Environment Programme, to continue efforts to broaden the donor base and mobilize resources from all sources, including stakeholders;

19. *Recalls* paragraph 88 (b) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[1] in which Heads of State and Government called for the United Nations Environment Programme to have secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations, and voluntary contributions to fulfil its mandate, and invites the Secretary-General, in his budget proposals for an allocation from the United Nations regular budget for 2016-2017 to the United Nations Environment Programme, to take into account the need to continue implementing paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a)-(h), of the outcome document, as well as opportunities for increasing the efficient use of resources;

20. Notes *that* the work programme and budget for the biennium 2016-2017 is part of a continuing process and that the allocation of the United Nations regular budget to the United Nations Environment Programme will be approved by the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

21. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit a report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session on any implications of the latest information on funding on the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016-2017;

22. *Notes* the positive effect of the voluntary indicative scale of contributions to broaden the base of contributions to, and to enhance predictability in the voluntary financing of, the Environment Fund, and requests the Executive Director to continue adapting the voluntary indicative scale of contributions, inter alia, in the light of the universal membership of the United Nations Environment Programme, in accordance with decision SS.VII/1 and any relevant subsequent decisions, and requests the Executive Director to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session;

23. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide the Committee of Permanent Representatives at its next meeting, to be held in the third quarter of 2014, with options to secure the participation at the open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and United Nations Environment Assembly delegates from developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States with special vulnerabilities, with a view to informing the Executive Director's next request for regular budget resources through the appropriate channels;

24. *Also requests* the Executive Director, in line with General Assembly resolution 67/213 of 21 December 2012, to provide the Committee of Permanent Representatives with options to secure the servicing of the governing bodies in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 1972 with a view to informing the Executive Director's next request for regular budget resources through the appropriate channels;

25. *Further requests* the Executive Director to submit for consideration and approval by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a prioritized, results-oriented and streamlined medium-term strategy for the period 2018-2021 and a programme of work and budget for the biennium 2018-2019;

26. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to monitor and manage the share of the Environment Fund devoted, respectively, to post costs and non-post costs, while clearly prioritizing the application of the resources of the Environment Fund to programme activities.

1/16. Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the requests that the United Nations Environment Programme carry out the functions of secretariats for other bodies and the report of the Executive Director on the management of trust funds and earmarked contributions,[11]

Taking note of the decision entitled "Location and arrangements for the secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine

[11] UNEP/EA.1/8.

Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention)", adopted at the Fifth Conference of the Parties to the Tehran Convention, held in Ashgabat from 28 to 30 May 2014,

Taking note also of decision 1/6 of the First Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, in which the United Nations Environment Programme was requested to carry out the functions of the secretariat,

Taking note further of the outcome of the sixth Biodiversity in Europe Conference, held in Batumi, Georgia, establishing the Pan-European Biodiversity Platform and the request of States members of the Platform that the United Nations Environment Programme provide secretariat services,

Taking note of Environment Assembly resolution 1/5 on chemicals and waste,

I

Trust funds in support of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme

1. *Welcomes* requests that the United Nations Environment Programme provide secretariats to service environmental agreements related to its programme of work;

2. *Notes* that, in line with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, agreements for which the United Nations Environment Programme carries out the functions of the secretariat must be based on the principle of cost recovery when it comes to administrative costs;

3. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to carry out the functions of the Tehran Convention secretariat, as specified in article 23.1 of the Tehran Convention, on such mutually agreed terms as the Executive Director and the parties see fit and in accordance with the decision entitled "Location and arrangements for the secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention)", adopted at the Fifth Conference of the Parties to the Tehran Convention;

4. *Also authorizes* the Executive Director to carry out the secretariat functions specified in decision 1/6 of the first Conference of Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa on such mutually agreed terms as the Executive Director and the parties see fit and in accordance with decision 1/6 of the First Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide the secretariat of the Pan-European Biodiversity Platform on such mutually agreed terms as the Executive Director and the Members of the Platform see fit and in accordance with the outcome of the sixth Biodiversity in Europe Conference, establishing the Pan-European Biodiversity Platform;

6. *Notes and approves* the establishment of the following trust funds since the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council:

A. General trust funds

(a) PES: Trust Fund for the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, which was established in 2014 with no expiry date;

(b) PBL: Trust Fund for the Secretariat of the Pan-European Biodiversity Platform;

(c) BWL: Special Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions in Support of the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa;

(d) BML: General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget of the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa;

(e) CML: Trust fund for the special programme in support to institutional strengthening at the national level to enhance implementation, of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention on mercury, and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;

B. Technical cooperation trust funds

(f) CLL: Trust Fund to Support the Activities of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, which was established in 2013 with an expiry date of 31 December 2017;

(g) GRL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood and Central Asia (EaP-GREEN) Programme, which was established in 2013 with no expiry date;

7. *Approves* the extension of the following trust funds, subject to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme receiving requests to do so from the relevant Governments or contracting parties:

C. General trust funds

(a) AML: General Trust Fund for the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(b) CWL: General Trust Fund for the African Ministers' Council on Water, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(c) MCL: General Trust Fund in Support of Activities on Mercury and its Compounds, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(d) SML: General Trust Fund for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management Quick Start Programme, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(e) WPL: General Trust Fund to Provide Support to the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme Office and to Promote its Activities, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

D. Technical cooperation trust funds

(f) AFB: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for UNEP Activities as Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund Board, which is extended through 31 December 2017;

(g) BPL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Agreement with Belgium (financed by the Government of Belgium), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(h) CIL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to Support the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Remediation Activities Following the Toxic Waste Incident in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(i) GNL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund in support of the Coordination Office of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (financed by the Government of the Netherlands), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(j) IAL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for Ireland Aid Multilateral Environment Fund for Africa (financed by the Government of Ireland), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(k) IPL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to Assist the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in Developing Countries (financed by the Government of Sweden), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(l) MDL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for UNEP Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(m) REL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Promotion of Renewable Energy in the Mediterranean Region (financed by the Government of Italy), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(n) SEL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Agreement with Sweden, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(o) SFL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Framework Agreement between Spain and UNEP, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(p) VML: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to Assist Developing Countries to Take Action for the Protection of the Ozone Layer Under the Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol (financed by the Government of Finland), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

II

Trust funds in support of regional seas programmes, conventions, protocols and special funds

8. *Notes and approves* the establishment of the following trust funds since the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council:

(a) PCL: Trust Fund for the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention);

(b) SMU: Trust Fund to Support the Activities of the Secretariat of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, which was established in 2013 with an expiry date of 31 December 2015;

9. *Approves* the extension of the following trust funds subject to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme receiving requests to do so from the relevant Governments or contracting parties:

E. General trust funds

(a) BEL: General Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities under the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(b) BGL: General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Biosafety Protocol, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(c) BHL: Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Biosafety Protocol, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(d) BIL: Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties, in particular the Least Developed and the Small Island Developing States among them, and Parties with Economies in Transition (Biosafety Protocol), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(e) BTL: General Trust Fund for the Conservation of the European Bats Agreement, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(f) BYL: General Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(g) BZL: General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Process of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(h) CAP: Trust Fund for the Core Budget of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and related Protocols, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(i) CRL: Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(j) EAL: Regional Seas Trust Fund for the Eastern African Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(k) ESL: Regional Seas Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of East Asian Seas, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(l) MEL: Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(m) MPL: Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(n) MSL: Trust Fund for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(o) MVL: General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions in Support of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(p) PNL: General Trust Fund for the Protection, Management and Development of the Coastal and Marine Environment and the Resources of the Northwest Pacific Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(q) ROL: General Trust Fund for the Operational Budget of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(r) RVL: Special Trust Fund for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(s) SOL: General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observation for the Vienna Convention, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(t) SMU: Trust Fund to Support the Activities of the Secretariat of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(u) VBL: Voluntary Trust Fund to Facilitate the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the Work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(v) VCL: Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(w) WAL: Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of West and Central African Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017.

1/17. Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling decision SS.IV/1 of 18 June 1994 on the adoption of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility (hereinafter "the Instrument"),

Recalling also the approval in May 2014 by the Fifth Assembly of the Global Environment Facility of a number of amendments to the Instrument relating to the Facility being available to operate as one of the financial mechanisms of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to replace the "ozone layer depletion" and "persistent organic pollutants" focal areas with a "chemicals and waste" focal area, to update the eligibility criteria for accessing Facility funding and to reflect the

change of the name from GEF Evaluation Office to GEF Independent Evaluation Office,

Having taken note of the report of the Executive Director,[12]

1. *Adopts* the following amendments to the Instrument, pursuant to the decision of the Global Environment Facility Assembly in May 2014:

(a) The amendment to paragraph 6 of the Instrument by which the Global Environment Facility shall serve as one of the financial mechanisms of the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

(b) The amendment to bullets (a), (b), (c) and (d) of paragraph 6 of the Instrument in order to clarify, in an orderly fashion, the responsibilities of the Global Environment Facility under the conventions that it serves;

(c) The amendment to paragraph 2 of the Instrument inviting the Global Environment Facility to revise its focal area structure and strategy to address the chemicals and waste agenda and replacing the "ozone layer depletion" and "persistent organic pollutants" focal areas with the "chemicals and waste" focal area;

(d) The amendment to paragraph 9 of the Instrument, by which the eligibility criteria for access to Global Environment Facility funding is updated to accommodate updates to eligibility criteria in the World Bank on financing and in the United Nations Development Programme on technical assistance;

(e) The amendment to paragraph 11 of the Instrument, by which the Global Environment Facility shall have an assembly, a council and a secretariat, including an independent evaluation office;

(f) The amendments to paragraph 21 of the Instrument, by which the functions of the independent evaluation office are further clarified;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to consider ways of enhancing the capacity of the United Nations Environment Programme, as the principal United Nations body in the field of the environment, to strengthen its role as implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Director to transmit the present resolution to the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility.

[12] UNEP/EA.1/9.

Decisions

1/1. Implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 6 of Governing Council decision 27/2,

Decides that each of the five regions shall be represented by 2 members in the 10-member Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

1/2. Provisional agenda, date and venue of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/213 of 21 December 2012, 67/251 of 13 March 2013 and 68/215 of 20 December 2013,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 47/202 A (paragraph 17) of 22 December 1992, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 57/283 B (paragraphs 9-11 of section II) of 15 April 2003, 61/236 (paragraph 9 of section II A) of 22 December 2006, 62/225 (paragraph 9 of section II A) of 22 December 2007, 63/248 (paragraph 9 of section II A) of 24 December 2008, 64/230 (paragraph 9 of section II A) of 22 December 2009, 65/245 (paragraph 10 of section II A) of 24 December 2010 and 67/237 (paragraph 13 of section II A) of 28 January 2013,

Taking into account Governing Council decisions 27/1 and 27/2 of 22 February 2013,

Noting with appreciation the contribution by the open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the elements of the provisional agenda for the second session of the Environment Assembly and comments provided at that meeting,[13]

1. *Decides* to hold the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its headquarters in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016;

2. *Requests* the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in consultation with the Bureau of the Environment Assembly, to contribute to the preparation of the draft provisional agenda for the second session of the Assembly.

[13] See UNEP/CPR/127/2, sect. XI.A.

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